(a) whether legislations pertaining to the trade related intellectual property rights (Trips) are ready for introduction; and

(b) if so, the action taken to protect our plant varieties and substances of the geographical origin in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) Necessary legislations pertaining to the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) are under finalisation. These will include legislations to protect plant varieties and substances of geographical origin in India.

Value of Import and Export

†t35. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantum of import has been higher than the export for the past few years;

(b) if so, the value of import as well as export undertaken in the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(c) whether Government have identified those industrial sectors where import has been higher than the export; and

(d) if so, the names of these sectors together with the value of import as well as export undertaken.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes sir. As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics data, value of imports and exports of India for 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 are as under:—

(Value in US$ Million)

Year	Imports	Exports
1996-97	39132	33470
1997-98	41484	35006
1998-99*	41886	33641

*Provisional

(c) and (d) India's major industrial export sectors are Textiles, Gems and jewellery, chemicals and engineering goods, while major import sectors include pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, machinery, gold and silver, organic and inorganic chemicals and electronic goods apart from Petroleum crude and products. Exports depend on a number of factors including comparative advantage of the exporting country while imports are guided by requirements of domestic industry. Major items of export and import (industrial sectors) and their values arc given in Statement.

Statement

Value of major industrial sectors *Export* *(value in US $ million)*

Sectors	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99*
Gems & Jewellery	4752.7	5345.5	5904
Readymade Garments	3753.3	3876.2	4444.4
Cotton, yarn, fabrics, made-ups, etc.	3121.7	3264.3	2773.8
Basic chemicals, pharma & cosmetics	2497.4	2821.8	2645.2
Machinery and instruments	1057.1	1195.7	1143.8
Manufacture of metals	913.5	1023.2	1081.3
Marine products	1128.9	1207.3	1038.2
Transport equipments	968.7	929.1	726.1

Value of major industrial sectors *Import* *(value in US $ million)*

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99*
Petroleum crude & products	10036.3	8164	6433.1
Gold & silver	991.5	3169.3	4876.2
Machinery	5979	5473.6	4493.7
Pearls precious & semi precious stones	2925	3342.1	3762.1
Organic and inorganic chemicals	2660.9	2956.1	2718.0
Electronic goods	1423.8	2087.8	2174.3

*Date for 1998-99 are provisional.